- Under the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) of the Ministry of Rural Development financial assistance is being provided to various States for implementation of sericulture projects of all varieties of silk with the technical assistance of CSB;
- Supply chain issues between the farmers, raw silk producers and the weavers are being addressed by advocating contract farming models, price linked grading, etc.
- Establishing quality certification systems for silkworm seeds, cocoons, yarn and fabric.
- An amount of Rs. 450 crores has been provided in the Tenth Plan for the Sericulture sector to support the above strategy and programmes;
- Export of value added silk items is being encouraged through assistance to exporters for participation in fairs and exhibitions abroad, market research and surveys, etc.

Amendment in Cantonment Board Act

†*137. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing structure Of Cantonment Boards is being changed;

(b) if so, by when the proposed amendment in the Cantonment Board Act is likely to be brought into force;

(c) whether there is a proposal to form an Advisory Council for the management of Cantonment Boards till the new Act comes into force; and

(d) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken to appoint civilians in the said Council?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has introduced the Cantonments Bill, 2003 in the Rajya Sabha on 22.12.2003 to amend the existing law relating to the administration of cantonments including the structure of Cantonment Boards.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The proposed amendments will be operative only after the Bill is adopted as an Act of the Parliament.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of the answer to part (c) above, does not arise.

Project proposals under Swajaldhara Scheme

*138. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of project proposals submitted by West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa under Swajaldhara Scheme since its inception, State-wise; and

(b) the State-wise number of proposals cleared so far?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Swajaldhara Scheme was launched in December 2002. Only in the year 2002-03, proposals were obtained from the State/UTs and cleared by the Government of India. The State-wise details of proposals received from West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and cleared under Swajaldhara in the year 2002-03 are as under:—

Sl. No.	State	No. of proposals received	No. of proposals approved
1.	West Bengal	115	08
2.	Bihar	0	0
3.	Orissa	474	287

The Swajaldhara Guidelines were issued in June, 2003 which stipulated that henceforth all proposals under Swajaldhara would be approved by the District Water and Sanitation Committee (DWSC). State/ UT-wise allocations are made by Government of India and communicated to the States and Union Territories, which, in turn, are required to make the district-wise allocations. Accordingly, balance proposals which had earlier been received in the Government of India and could not be considered in the year 2002-03, were returned to the respective State Governments for consideration on priority as per the Guidelines issued in June 2003 within the allocated amount communicated to the State for the year 20UJ-04.